

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant(s): Zack et al.

Case: DIVA/198

Serial No.: 09/458,322 Filed: December 10, 1999

Group Art Unit: 2611

Examiner: HUYNH, SON P.

Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING IN-BAND
MESSAGING WITHIN A VIDEO ON DEMAND ENVIRONMENTRECEIVED
379-03 12RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.111COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
Washington, D. C. 20231

S I R:

In response to the Office Action dated December 19, 2002 (Paper No. 9),
please amend the above-identified patent application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 9, line 5, with the
following:

B1

The switch 230 operates to multiplex the output of server module 220 (i.e., the contents of each server module's buffer memory) in, illustratively, a round robin fashion to produce an output stream OUT that is coupled to the transport processor 150 for subsequent transport to the appropriate subscribers 106 via the forward application transport channel (FATC) supported by the distribution network 140. The exemplary embodiment uses a service period of two seconds. Thus, each extent retrieved from a single disk within a disk array 110 comprises approximately two seconds worth of information, illustratively, video information and associated audio information. Thus, in the case of 30 frames per second video, each server module buffer must hold at least 60 frames of video and any associated audio information.